GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2541
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2006
POLICY ON CAPTIVE IRON ORE MINING
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Steel Industry has sought a policy framework from the Government that puts the processing of captive iron ore mining lease applications from the domestic integrated steel companies on the fast track;

(b) if so, whether the Industry has pointed out that such a move would neutralize the dis-advantage that exist in the form of high freight cost low level productivity poor infrastructure, high cost of power that makes Indian steel uncompetitive especially at a time when competition is getting fierce;

(c) if so, whether the Government has considered the proposal made by the steel Industry;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (Dr. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e): A high level committee has been constituted under the chairmanship of Shri Anwar-ul-Hoda, Member, Planning Commission, to review the National Mineral Policy, 1993, and recommend possible amendments to the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) (MMDR) Act, 1957. One of the Terms of Reference of the Committee is to review the existing procedures for granting mineral concessions and suggest ways for their streamlining and simplification. The Committee has not submitted its recommendations yet.